

## VOSGES DEFENCES STORMED BY FRENCH

Powerful German Work Taken by Assault—825 Men and 11 Officers Captured.

### THE SMALLER FORCE WON

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

Paris, July 25.—In the Vosges, where the French have been steadily pressing forward during the last month, a new success was won yesterday. A powerful defensive work constructed by the Germans between La Fontenelle and Launoy was captured by assault and eleven officers and 825 men were made prisoners. As an indication of the sweeping character of the victory, the War Office announced that only seventy of the prisoners were wounded.

The positions gained here were further organized to-day, says the night communiqué, in spite of a heavy bombardment by the Germans, and to-night French forces are complete masters of their newly acquired ground.

Elsewhere, too, the French have been on the offensive, although at several places lively cannonading occurred.

The night communiqué was as follows:

The night passed without incident except for some shelling in the Vosges, in the vicinity of Souchez, between the Aisne and the Oise, on the plateau of Quenoverres and in Le Forêt forest. At the latter place, however, the shelling was accompanied by a lively fusillade, but there was no infantry action.

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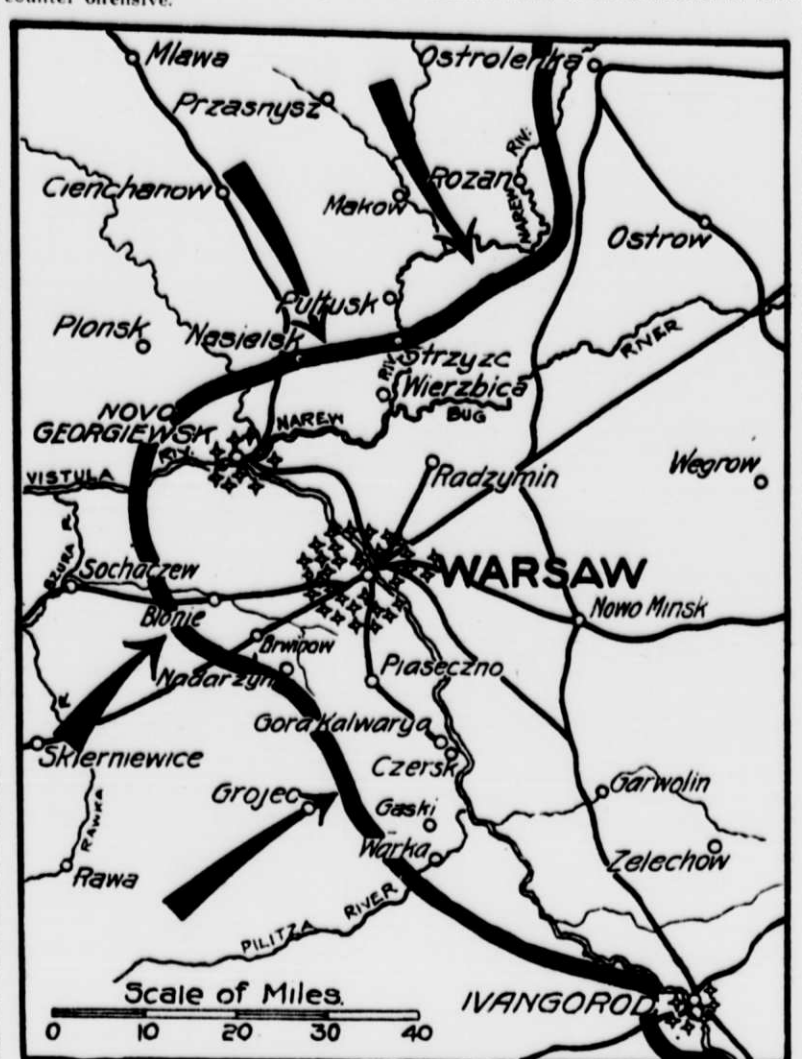
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## GERMANS CLOSING IN ON WARSAW

The German forces, according to the official Berlin statement yesterday, have crossed the Narew River on a front of thirty miles, between Rozan and Pultusk, which they captured on Friday, and are now approaching the river Bug. West of the south of Warsaw the Germans have met with a firm resistance, while southeast of the Polish capital the Russians seem to be successful in their counter offensive.



## GERMANS DRAWING RING TIGHTER ABOUT WARSAW

Forces in North Cross Narew at Point Where River Formed Strongest Barrier—Three Villages South of Capital Taken.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

Berlin, via London, July 25.—The German army which is forcing its way around Warsaw on the north crossed the Narew River yesterday between a point south of Ostrołęka and Pultusk on a front of about thirty miles. The Narew at this point was the strongest natural barrier standing as an obstacle in the advance to cut the Warsaw to Petrograd railway.

Southeast of Pultusk, where the German armies had already crossed the Narew, an appreciable advance was made toward the River Bug, while southwest of Bielsk the German forces pressed forward in the face of firm resistance to a line between Nasielsk and Strzyż.

South of Warsaw, where the Germans are rapidly approaching the Ivangorod-Warsaw railway, the villages of Stanow, Głuch and Jurgaszew were taken by storm.

As the situation stands to-night, therefore, Warsaw is invested by a semi-circular line of three sides.

At headquarters the following statement was issued:

The army of Gen. von Bulow engaged in a series of operations during the night of July 24 and 25. The German forces crossed the Narew River at a point south of Ostrołęka and Pultusk. The Narew at this point was the strongest natural barrier standing as an obstacle in the advance to cut the Warsaw to Petrograd railway.

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## MORE AUSTRIANS GO TO GORITZ'S DEFENCE

Will Make Desperate Effort to Hold the Isonzo Fortress.

### NO AID FROM GERMANY

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

Rome, July 25.—Repealed here from the Italian army headquarters, as well as news brought by deserters from the Austrian forces, indicate that the Austrians are rushing reinforcements from Trieste for the defence of Goritz, and intend to make a desperate effort to hold the Isonzo fortress. The occupation of the latter would open the way for an extensive Italian advance toward the southeast, threatening Trieste and the Istrian peninsula, and toward the north, menacing the railroad to Vienna.

The Austrian Emperor has repeatedly begged the Kaiser for aid, but in vain. The Bavarian troops reported to be sent into Tyrol are massed in that region, where an Italian offensive is expected to occur. The Austrians are astonished at the numerical strength of the Italian and realize now that the advance of the invaders is hopeless.

The following official statement from the Italian government was issued today:

In the afternoon of June 23 two Italian hydroaeronauts, flying from the head of Lake Garda, returned safely.

The Carnic front heavy forces vainly attacked our positions in the Sella di Condoglia last night.

In the Monte Nero region (north of Tolmino) the enemy made a vigorous attempt to check our advance. Three heavy attacks were launched, but they were repulsed with heavy losses.

The operations on the Carso plateau are developing favorably.

ITALIANS LOSE HEAVILY.

Vienna Reports Gains in Attack on Dobruja Plateau.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

Vienna, via London, July 25.—The following official report of the operations on the Italian front was issued today:

In the region of Goritz the hostile action during the day was limited to artillery firing. Night attacks on the border of the Dobruja plateau failed. The Italian forces failed again with heavy losses to the Italians.

The following report has been issued regarding the naval bombardment of the Italian coast along a length of 100 miles.

Our cruisers and other warships successfully shelled the railway on the Italian coast along a length of 100 miles.

Between Ostrołęka and Rozan we repelled determined attempts of the enemy to cross the Narew at several points. In the Rozan-Pultusk sector the Germans on July 23 succeeded in throwing a portion of their forces to the left bank of the Narew.

Two factories at Orzowa and one at San Vito were badly damaged. The viaduct near the Termini bridge across the Narew was also damaged.

On the left bank of the Vistula the Germans made fruitless attacks in the direction of Piaszczyn on July 24.

Between the Vistula and the Bug our attacks stopped the German advance. No further offensive has been attempted by the Germans with the exception of attacks on the Volska-Gorodok front, which we repulsed.

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## VEL LIFTED, ENGLAND IS LESS OPTIMISTIC

Feeling of Depression Follows Revelation of Exact Truth Regarding Position of Army, Lack of Munitions and Intrigues Among Statesmen.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.

LONDON, July 25.—Reference has already been made in a recent letter to the feeling of depression which has steadily settled over this country during the last few weeks. Speaking at the Guildhall one day last week, Lord Law, who, until he became a member of the coalition cabinet was the leader of the Unionist opposition in the House of Commons, said: "Till a short time ago there was a feeling of optimism in this country greater than the circumstances justified, and I am inclined to think that now, in some quarters at least, there is a feeling of pessimism which is just as little justified."

Speaking in the same place this afternoon, Lord Kitchener said: "It is true we are in an immeasurably better position now than two months ago" (this referred to the question of numbers of men in the army), "but the position today is at least as serious as it was then."

A consideration of these two utterances may help toward understanding the feeling that exists in England to-day. Lord Law was undoubtedly right in saying that until a short time ago the feeling of optimism was greater than the circumstances justified, but to describe the feeling that has lately taken its place as "pessimism" is hardly so correct.

The public, happy and confident in the rosy optimism inspired by imaginary victories and believing implicitly that as soon as spring came the allied armies could break through the German "whenever they liked," were still content when week after week crept by without any signs of "the great move." They trusted Kitchener and French to know the right moment, and it was a matter for the military experts, not for civilians, to decide.

Awake to Deficiencies.

Then they were suddenly told that the British army could not advance for want of high explosive shells. Practically at the same time they learned that the British army was lacking in machine guns, while the hundreds of thousands of men training at home were perfect in their drill, in the finest of physical condition, but without rifles, and even where there were a certain number of rifles there was no ammunition for the absolutely necessary musketry practice.

All this was learned when the late Government was in power, and it was under the veil of secrecy which had for so long buoyed up the British public in those beliefs which induced them to believe that the British army was justified in its optimism. With the transition from a party government to a coalition there came a momentary lifting of the veil, which had, since the beginning of the war, concealed from the public the true state of the military situation.

The stories of the shortage of munitions and of the reasons for this shortage have already been told, but day after day the facts are being disclosed, some further, some less, and the public now partly knows what has been hidden from it all along. The effect upon their minds is not rightly described as "pessimism." It is rather a mixture of anger, disgust and depression, which has been increased in effect because of the suddenness with which the people have realized that they had for two months or more been living in a fool's paradise.

The scandal that follows the track of war as inevitably as do death and destruction are at present practically confined to the past. There is every indication and desire to give the coalition government full play, but at the same time it must carefully watch its step in such a matter as to make "disenchantment possible."

Haldane and Kitchener.

This has been quickly recognized by the most alert mind in the present cabinet. When Lord Kitchener was attacked as being responsible for the shortage of the necessary kind of munitions, it was only yesterday that the English people, not yet more vaguely informed as to those shortcomings, resented the attack and called for a man of the highest calibre and one whom they trusted was more firmly established in their confidence than ever.

But before this Lord Kitchener's predecessor at the post of Chief of Staff, who left the War Office to become Lord Chancellor, resigned the post and found no place in the reformed cabinet.

Lord Haldane, the greatest questioner of the most erudite men in Europe, a man of vast knowledge and wide experience as a statesman. It is impossible for any one who has talked with him to doubt his patriotism. But he has devoted all his intellect and diplomacy to the past to the policy of bringing England and Germany together in friendship.

He has spoken of Germany as his "spiritual home." He has been a one man who has striven for an Anglo-German entente. When war came it was not surprising that many among the English people should distrust him.

Since his fall there has been a strong movement to get him back into office. Those who have headed